

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph at page 2, lines 3-15 as follows:

For the above described reasons, efforts have been made to make the absorbent body thin without reducing the content of the super absorbent polymers contained in the absorbent body. In this case, although the ~~content~~ amount of the pulp contained in the absorbent body needs to be reduced, ~~when if~~ the ~~content~~ amount of the pulp is reduced to less than 50% by weight, another problem arises. This problem is that retaining the strength of the absorbent body becomes difficult ~~occurs~~ because the super absorbent polymers ~~itself themselves~~ do not have strength retention ~~capability capabilities~~. In this case, ~~the method to adhere~~ adhering the front surface sheet ~~and to~~ the absorbent body by a hot-melt adhesive, a polyvinyl alcohol, or a heat seal fiber similar to the above described earlier technique ~~is does~~ not enough overcome this problem.

Please amend the paragraph at page 2, lines 16-24 as follows:

Also, ~~earlier in the prior art, the an~~ absorbent article such as a disposable diaper, sanitary napkin or the

like generally comprises a permeable upper sheet covering the front surface side which a body of a wearer contacts, an impermeable lower sheet covering the rear surface side thereof, and an absorbent body interposed between these sheets. There is a demand for such absorbent articles from general users to be excellent in absorptivity and wearability, and for such users to be able to purchase the absorbent articles at a low cost.

Please amend the paragraph added at page 14, line 21 before the paragraph beginning with "The above absorption capability..." and ending with "...blocking rate, respectively." (see the paper filed February 15, 2008) as follows:

~~An absorbent body 23 having these properties may be used in the embodiment shown in In FIGS. 5, 6, 8A and 8B, wherein~~ the absorbent body 23 includes a layer L1 of pulp fibers 27 and a mixed layer L2 of pulp fibers 27 and super absorbent polymers 28.

Please further amend the paragraph at page 15, lines 2-15 (as amended in the Amendment filed October 25, 2007) as follows:

First, regarding the absorption speed of the super absorbent polymers 28, as shown in FIG. 7A, 1 g of the super

absorbent polymers 28 are dispersed in the dish 30 having a diameter of 90 mm, putting 30 cc of artificial urine therein (A1 representing this step), and the time (second) for the artificial urine to be absorbed in the super absorbent polymers 28 is measured (A2 representing this step). As a result of experiments, it has been found that the absorption speed is preferably not more than 50 seconds in terms of absorption capability of the super absorbent polymers 28. When the absorption speed exceeds 50 seconds, the hydrophilic property of the super absorbent polymers 28 becomes high, thereby exposing the wet back of urine and easily enabling development of a diaper rash.

Please amend the paragraph at page 15, line 16 to page 16, line 2 as follows:

Next, regarding the absorbed amount of the super absorbent polymers 28, as shown in FIG. 7B, 0.2 g of the super absorbent polymers 28 are dispersed in an area of 40 mm diameter on a filter paper 31 having a diameter of 50 mm under the pressure of 20 g/cm² (B1 representing a pressurization step), and the absorbed amount (cc/g) is measured by soaking it in artificial urine (B2 representing these steps). Similar to the above, as a result of the

experiment, it has found out that the absorbed amount of the super absorbent polymers 28 is preferably not less than 28 cc/g in terms of absorption capability. When the absorbed amount of the super absorbent polymers 28 is less than 28 cc/g, similar to the case of the absorption speed, the wet back of urine exposes and a wearer easily gets a diaper rash.

And please amend the paragraph at page 16, line 3 to page 17, line 4 as follows:

Regarding the moisture absorbing blocking rate of the super absorbent polymers 28, as shown in FIG. 7C, 2g of the super absorbent polymers 28 are dispersed in an area of 100 mm x 10 mm on a steel plate 32 of 150 mm x 150 mm (square), storing the steel plate 32 in the constant temperature and high humidity bath in which the temperature is 40°C and the humidity is 90% for 30 seconds (C1 representing these steps), turning the steel plate 32 over and leaving it for one minute (C2 representing these steps), and the moisture absorbing blocking rate of the super absorbent polymers 28 is measured based on the calculating formula, that is, super absorbent polymers remaining in the steel plate 32/total weight x 100 = moisture absorbing blocking rate (%) (C3

representing this measuring step). Similar to the above, as a result of the experiment, it has been found out that the moisture absorbing blocking rate of the super absorbent polymers 28 is preferably not more than 50%. In a case that the moisture absorbing blocking rate of the super absorbent polymers 28 is more than 50%, when conveying the super absorbent polymers 28 to the disposable diaper producing machine, the polymers adhere with each other in the atmosphere of normal humidity, thereby deteriorating dispersibility, thus, failing to equally disperse the super absorbent polymers 28. Also, polymer particles adhere in the carrier tube, the disposable diaper producing equipment or the like to form rust, so that overhaul is often performed. Thus, the producing equipment needs to be stopped every time the overhaul is performed, so that it has found out that the cost increases.